

Weather Discussion

Report Date: September 10, 2020

Winds will continue to decrease this morning as the West Coast thermal trough finally begins an eastward progression. Expect winds will switch across the westside and become westerly by afternoon. With this, there is a bit of an onshore push with 25-30 mph gusts expected through the evening for the Chehalis Gap. Fires burning near Capitol Forest and around the South Sound will be vulnerable to this wind shift as humidities are expected to remain very low. Humidities across the westside will be 13-20% and locally higher near the Coast. On the eastside, winds will not be a major factor today but humidities are likely to be 12-17% which will keep fuels very receptive. Temperatures will be very hot today across both sides of the Cascades.

The primary concern for Friday will be the still very low humidities for the state. Humidities for the eastside are expected to be 11-16% and below 25-30% for westside locations along the west slopes and I-5 corridor. Winds should finally shift to NW across the eastside by Friday morning. Breezy wind gusts are likely through the Cascade gaps to 25-30 mph but these winds look unlikely to become any more widespread.

The weekend shows mostly seasonal weather as the upper ridge continues to collapse and shift eastward. An upper trough looks likely to move into the state by early next week but it remains unclear whether this will result in ample precipitation or a dry wind event.

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